Center for Minerals Technology

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The Center's focus is on developing new technologies for the minerals processing industry.

Background

Established in 1995 the Center's focus is on developing new technologies for minerals processing. Specific areas of expertise include the design of high efficiency grinding mills using state of the art computer simulation software, advanced mill analysis and monitoring methods, technologies for the in-line monitoring and measurement of particle size on moving conveyor belts, and the real-time control of industrial milling processes.

Technology Development Progress

Computer software, on-line instruments and laboratory procedures for the design, monitoring control and analysis of industrial grinding machines and operating plants have been demonstrated and are being designed for industrial applications.

Highlights and Accomplishments

An instrument to measure the distribution of sizes of particles on moving conveyor belts has been developed and successfully tested at industrial sites. This instrument is of great value because it eliminates the need to take samples from the conveyor for remote analysis and therefore provides real-time process control for mining and milling operations.

A laboratory on-line particle analysis system (OPSA) was installed at an industrial site for plant control by pellet characterization. **Five companies have expressed an interest in licensing the OPSA technology.**

The Center continues to concentrate on demonstrating the application of new technologies in an industrial setting.

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Summary Data:

Current

1996-97 Award	$115,000
Matching Funds	$341,414
Patents Pending	0
Patents Issued	0
License Agreements	1
Spin-off Companies	0
Companies Assisted	2
Industry Jobs	0
Center Jobs	4

Cumulative

Awards	$240,000
Matching Funds	$1,011,892
Patents Issued	0
License Agreements	1
Spin-off Companies	0